

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

This amendment is in response to the Office Action dated August 11, 2003. Appreciation is expressed to the Examiner for the allowance of claims 19, 22, 25 and 26.

By the present amendment, all non-allowed claims in the application have either been cancelled or amended to depend on the allowed claims (for example, claims 23 and 24). In addition, new dependent claims 39-48 have been added to depend on the allowed claims 19, 22, 25 and 26.

In light of the present amendment, allowance of the present application with remaining claims 19, 22-26 and 39-48 is respectfully requested. As noted above, all these claims have either been allowed in the Office Action or amended to depend from the allowed claims. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are now in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited.

Incidentally, with regard to the objection to claim 25 stating that "the period in the middle of the claim should be deleted," from a review of claim 25 neither the Applicant or the undersigned attorney have discovered where the period in question is located. Accordingly, if this action is still necessary, Applicants would greatly appreciate the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney so that this matter can be attended to by way of an Examiner's amendment.

If the Examiner believes that there are any other points which may be clarified or otherwise disposed of either by telephone discussion or by personal interview, the

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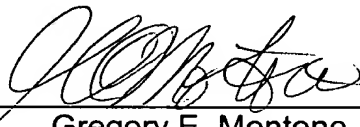
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Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Docket No. 500.39910X00), and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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